

FOR PORTO RICO WILL SOON SAIL A STRONG FORCE.

Army of
Twenty
Thousand

Spain Is Expected
To Make Them Earn
Whatever They Get

Thirty-Five Transports
Will Be Employed
For the Expedition

Spaniards
Estimated
At 10,000

GREAT GUNS ONCE AGAIN AT SANTIAGO

At Early Morning
Sampson Opens
a Terrible Fire

Tremendous
Execution
Effected
Spanish Powder Magazine
Exploded by a Shell
From the Texas

Spaniards
Shoot Like
Blind Men

Washington, June 16.—The war department expects to utilize approximately thirty-five transports in the expedition for the invasion of Porto Rico. This statement was made officially at the department today. It seems to indicate that the Porto Rico army will equal if not exceed in numbers that which left for Santiago. The estimate is made for the thirty-five vessels will carry between 25,000 and 30,000 men with their equipments and subsistence. Army officials say that reports which have been received from reliable sources show that the number of Spanish soldiers in that country is probably 10,000 men, although other statements indicate that there is considerably less than that number. It is fair to assume, they say, that when the United States army commences active operations against the city of San Juan every available man in that place will be impressed into military service and given a gun. Hence they feel that the army of invasions should be of such proportions as to leave no doubt of its ability and capacity to cope successfully with the enemy. It is stated positively that the embarkation point for the troops for Porto Rico has not yet been finally determined, and will not be until the president and Secretary Alger will have had an opportunity to confer with Major General Miles, who will return to the city tomorrow.

FEVERISH ACTIVITY IN THE WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington, June 16.—There was an exhibition of feverish activity at the war department today, so pronounced as to attract attention, even in these stirring times. It was apparent that renewed efforts were making to complete the equipment of the troops already gathered at the concentration points, and that preparations are in progress to move a number of troops. So far, however, it is stated, no orders have gone out for the actual movement, and what has been done and is being done in that direction is merely preparatory. Very likely definite action will follow a conference which Secretary Alger and the president will have with General Miles when he arrives here tomorrow from Tampa. The general is better aware of the exact state of fitness of the troops at the southern rendezvous places than any one else, and the president and Secretary Alger in all probability will be bound by what he has to say in deciding upon the further disposition of troops. If General Miles, as is thought to be probable, recommends a further concentration of troops on the southern seaboard, the new camp at Fernandina, Fla., will be made ready for the reception of the additional troops. The officials have been forewarned as to this camp, profiting by the experience gained in the establishment of the two great camps at Chickamauga and Camp Alger.

NEWS IS GOOD, BUT NO NEWS IS ALSO GOOD

Washington, June 16.—In the way of actual events there was little to record today. No word came from Sampson at Santiago or from Dewey at Manila. This lack of affirmative news from the respective seats of war gave rise to no apprehension. The officials are resting secure in the belief that the marines at Guantanamo can easily maintain themselves until the troops arrive, and the worst that can be feared at Manila is no harm to Dewey, but to the Spaniards in the city. The officials in the war department do not give out any specific information as to whether General Shafter will land in Cuba, but from certain signs of restlessness exhibited by them, it is evident they would not be surprised to have some very important news within the next twenty-four or thirty-six hours.

NIGHT STAMPEDE OF LIVESTOCK IN CAMP

Washington, June 17.—A special to the Post from Tampa, Fla., says: At 7 o'clock tonight 2,000 horses and mules broke from their corrals and stampeded through the camps of General Carpenter's brigade. It was so dark and the excitement was so great in the district of Columbia camp that it was impossible to learn if any men were hurt. The panic among the men was terrible. Officers tried to get their companies into line, but the army of wild horses made that impossible. Many men began shouting at the excited animals, but this only excited them more. It seems impossible to stop the stampede tonight. The horses seemed to be attracted by the tents and they rushed through the brigade of three regiments and then back again, taking a different course each time. They have already destroyed many tents, kitchens and camp paraphernalia. It is not known what started the animals on the wild rush. Taps had just been sounded in all the camps and the bands had played their good nights. The men were hardly asleep when a loud crackling like the firing of Gatling guns startled them. It was the breaking down of the corral fence, a high wooden affair. In the next moment the infuriated and panting horses rushed into the New York camp which was nearest the break in the fence. The rush sounded like a thunder storm. The New York sentinels began to yell like mad: "Call out the guard! Call out the guard!" The guard hurried out, but it was useless, as the animals were then rushing over everything in their path. In half an hour the camps had been stampeded three times, and there seemed no hope of driving the beasts away from the breach. Forty men were mounted by 11 o'clock, and they were able to check the rush a little, or at least to steer the horses from the camp.

What Lieutenant Blue Discovered About Santiago

Off Santiago de Cuba, Tuesday, June 14, 8 p. m., by the Associated Press dispatch boat Dandy, via Kingston, Jamaica, June 16; 9 p. m. (Copyright, 1898, by the Associated Press.)—Lieutenant Victor Blue, in his plucky trip ashore, under instructions of Rear Admiral Sampson to locate definitely the Spanish warships in the harbor of Santiago de Cuba, rode 72 miles on a mule. Landing about fifteen miles west of Santiago, and accompanied by a force of Cuban guides, he finally reached an observation point six or seven miles west of Santiago city.

The troops are encamped all around the city, and there are several block houses on the northern side. Lieutenant Blue was unable to return by the road by which he went, by the presence of Spanish cavalry. So he made a longer detour, returning without having encountered the enemy and without an exciting experience. Lieutenant Blue said today:

"If I had met any Spaniards I would have jumped off the old mule and made for the woods. They are so thick that the Spaniards never would have caught me. I heard the sound of firing and was told it was one of the frequent brushes between the Cubans and Spaniards. I did not see any troops myself, and altogether I had quite a good time."

A Santiago daily paper, the Espana, of May 30, in an article entitled "The Question of Hunger," abuses the rich bankers of the town for "asking exorbitant prices for bread until there is nothing left but to renounce eating bread."

Continuing on the same lines, the Espana says: "Eatables rise in price daily. If now, when we are at the beginning of the war with the United States, this happens, what will happen within three or four months?"

The paper then virulently abuses the merchants. It was this issue of May 30 which Lieutenant Blue brought from shore when he made his report to Rear Admiral Sampson.

CONSUL WILLIAMS CALLS DEWEY A PAUL JONES

Washington, June 16.—Consul Williams, who was stationed at Manila before the war broke out, and who was with the fleet during the battle of Manila bay, in a report to the state department relates with considerable detail the incidents of the battle from the forcing of Manila harbor on the morning of May day, to the destruction of the Spanish fleet and the silencing of the land batteries. In conclusion, he says: "To every ship, officer, and crew all praise be given. The cool bravery and efficiency of the commodore was echoed by every captain and commander, and down through the lines by every officer and man, and naval history of the dawn of the century will be rich if it furnishes to the world so glorious a display of intelligent command and successful service as must be placed to the credit of the United States Asiatic squadron under date of May 1, 1898."

CERVERA SAYS HE CAN HOLD ON TILL AUTUMN

Madrid, June 16 (6 p. m.).—Captain Anson, minister of marine, has returned from Cadiz and has started for Cartagena. It is asserted that an "ironclad" which has not yet figured in any published list forms a part of Admiral Camara's squadron. Admiral Cervera cables that he has provisions enough for the fleet until autumn. He says: "A shell from an American warship, falling from a great elevation, struck the Vizcaya, which, owing to her excellent armor, was not damaged."

WHAT THE THUNDERER THINKS OF THE WAR

London, June 16.—The Times this morning, in an editorial which embodies the views of its foreign correspondents, says: "While in Vienna certain promises are given to the argument that Spain has done enough for honor and ought now to sue for peace upon terms which it is perhaps too hastily assumed the United States would grant, the view taken in Madrid is that although peace is desirable, the worst way of getting it is to ask for it. That attitude would be more intelligible were there any evidence that Spain is making efforts which might place her on more equal terms with her adversary."

"While in Vienna the hope is held out to her that by making peace immediately she might retain the Philippines, with the exception of a naval base for America at Manila. It seems to be thought at Madrid that the prospect of international difficulties about the Philippines, together with the military and physical obstacles to the reduction of Cuba, will bring the United States into a mood more favorable for negotiation."

"The hope of trouble about the Philippines is fostered by the action of Germany in sending a fifth warship to Manila. The consular reports are singularly inadequate but, so far as can be gathered, German shipping and commerce, though increasing, have not attained dimensions which would explain this great display of German strength."

"We are assured, however, that Germany has nothing in view beyond the protection of her subjects, and these assurances are deemed satisfactory at Washington. So long as the two powers concerned understand one another, there is nothing more to be said."

"There is an amusing allusion about the attempts made at Berlin to show that the suspicions entertained at Washington are due entirely to the malicious attempts of the English press to sow dissension between the two countries. This is an old trick of continental powers, when they find it difficult to explain away either their words or their actions. The statement of the marine dispatch correspondent, of his hope that the outcome of the presence of the German squadron at the Philippines may be some such permanent result as the possession of a harbor, is what sporting circles call a "string tip."

"Our dear German friends presume too far upon the world's ignorance or credulity."

On board the Associated Press dispatch boat Dauntless, off Santiago de Cuba, Thursday, June 16, noon; via Kingston, Jamaica, Thursday, June 16, 9 p. m.—(Copyrighted, 1898, by the Associated Press.)—Rear Admiral Sampson's fleet today bombarded the batteries at Santiago de Cuba, for the third time, at daylight this morning. For hours the ships pounded the batteries at the right and left of the entrance, only sparing El Moro, where Lieutenant Hobson and his companions of the Merrimac are in prison. The western batteries, against which the main assault was directed, were badly wrecked. One was utterly destroyed, and many guns in the other dismantled. The Spanish replied passionately and wildly, but impotently. Then most of the guns were deserted. Not a ship was struck nor a man injured on the American side. It is believed that the Spanish loss of life was heavy.

As a preliminary to the hammering given the batteries, the dynamite cruiser Vesuvius last night, at midnight, was given another chance. Three 250-pound charges of guncotton were sent over the fortifications at the entrance. The design was to drop them in the bay, around the angle, back of the eminence on which El Moro is situated, where it was known that the Spanish torpedo boat destroyers were lying. Two charges went there, as no reports were heard—a peculiarity of the explosion of guncotton in water. Whether the destroyers were demolished is not known but the destructive power of guncotton is large and it would not be surprising if it is subsequently ascertained that one or both were destroyed. The third charge exploded with terrific violence on Cayo Smith, from where the fleet lay the entrance to the harbor looked, in the black night, like a door opening into the livid fire of a Titanic furnace. A crater big enough to hold a church was blown out of the side of Cayo Smith and was clearly seen from the ships this morning.

On Board the Associated Press Dispatch Boat Dauntless, off Santiago de Cuba, Thursday, June 16, noon; via Kingston, Jamaica, Thursday, June 16, 9 p. m.—Admiral Sampson issued orders for today's bombardment last night. Coffee was served to the men at half past three this morning and with a first blush of dawn the men were called quietly to quarters. The ships steamed in at five-knot speed to a 2,000-yard range, when they closed up, broadside on, until a distance of three cable lengths separated them. They were strung out in the form of a crescent, the heavy fighting ships in the center, the cruisers on the right flank and the Massachusetts on the left flank. The line remained stationary throughout the bombardment. The Vixen and Scorpion took up positions on opposite flanks, close in shore, for the purpose of enfilading any infantry that might fire upon the ships.

When the ships got into position it was still too dark for any firing. The admiral signalled the ships not to fire until the muzzles of the enemy's guns in the embrasures could be seen by the gun captains. Fifteen minutes later, at 5:25 a. m., the New York opened with a broadside from her main battery, at the works on the east of the entrance to the harbor. All the ships followed in red streaks of flames. The firing developed in smoke, puffed the hills and kicked up dirt and masonry. It was a magnificent spectacle, from where the Dauntless lay.

Though the gun captains had been cautioned not to waste ammunition, but to fire with deliberation, the fire was so rapid that there was an almost continuous report. The measured crash of the big 13-inch guns of the battleships sounded above the rattle of the guns of the secondary batteries like thunder claps above the din of a hurricane. A strong land breeze off the shore carried the smoke of the ships seaward, while it let down a thick curtain in front of the Spanish gunners.

The guns responded spiritedly at first, but their frenzied, half-crazed fire could not match the cool nerve, trained eyes and skilled gunnery of the American sailors. Our fire was much more effective than in preceding bombardments. The admiral's ordnance expert had given explicit directions to reduce the powder charges and to elevate the guns, so as to shorten the trajectory and thus to secure a plunging fire. As the shells in the preceding bombardments dipped with too almost straight trajectories of projectiles, with full charges, it was almost impossible to plant them. They would shoot into the air, encircling the batteries, owing to the high elevation and fall far over the fortifications. The effect of the reduced charges was marvelous.

In fifteen minutes one western battery was completely wrecked. The Massachusetts tore a gaping hole in the emplacement with a thousand-pound projectile, and the Texas dropped a shell into the powder magazine. The explosion wrought terrible havoc. The frame was lifted, the sides were blown out and a shower of debris flew in every direction. One timber, carried out of the side of the battery, went tumbling down the hill. The loss of life must have been great.

The batteries on the east of Moro were harder to get at, but the New Orleans crossed the bows of the New York to within 500 yards of shore and played a tactics with her long 10-inch rifles, striking them repeatedly, striking a gun squarely muzzle-on, lifting it off its foundations and sending it swaying somersaults in the air. Several times Admiral Sampson signalled the ships temporarily to cease firing, in order to allow the smoke to clear from the batteries. When the order came, at 6:30, to cease firing every gun of the enemy had been silenced for ten minutes but

CUBAN JUNTA NOW SMILES AND SAYS "WE TOLD YOU SO"

Washington, June 16.—The work of the Cubans in reinforcing the marines at Guantanamo, and particularly in occupying Aguaceras, is receiving unstinted praise from officials here. Secretary Quesada and the Cuban officials also take much satisfaction in these reports. Mr. Quesada said today that the Cubans had not seen fit to reply to criticism current during the last few weeks as to the ineffectiveness of the Cuban soldiers, as they knew the criticisms were due to an ignorance of the careful plans, largely mapped at Washington, by which the Cuban forces were to execute their part of a well considered program.

"But now that the Cuban flag is floating over Aguaceras," continued Mr. Quesada, "all the criticisms are at an end. Aguaceras is about fifteen or twenty miles west of Santiago and is the port for the great iron and copper mines of that locality. It should not be confounded with Aguaceras, another suburban town, to the southeast of Santiago. But it is even more important, from a strategic point, than Aguaceras, as it has exceptional landing facilities."

"The achievement of General Rabi in making a forced march from Bayamo is characteristic of the dash and military genius of that officer. He is a self-made man and has the rank of general of a division, which is midway between your brigadier general and major general. He is about 45 years old, tall, thin, and muscular, and knows no fear. His latest pride is the fact that he is partly of Indian descent. He made a name for himself during the last Cuban war, and soon took high rank when the present war broke out. When General Martinez Campos thought to make short work of the present war, he led the Spanish forces to Rancid India, Camaguey and Pinar, where he met General Rabi with a Cuban army much smaller than that of Campos. But in each of these notable engagements Rabi overpowered and defeated Campos, the recognized military genius of Spain. He led Campos himself to capture that in Rabi he had met a soldier worthy of his best efforts."

"In occupying Aguaceras, General Rabi had with him about 1,000 men, while Campos is coming up with 1,500 to 2,000 more Cubans. The march of Rabi was hardly to be appreciated by any one not familiar with the mountainous, swampy and tangled tropical vegetation through which he pushed his way from Bayamo to Aguaceras. It is extremely gratifying to Cubans that Admiral Sampson should immediately recognize this movement and should officially report it to such competent terms to the navy department."